

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE
Chickasaw Association,

HELD WITH THE
TEMPERANCE HILL CHURCH,
SEPTEMBER 13, 14, 15, AND 16 1867.

MEMPHIS:
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1867.

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Officers of the Association.

MODERATOR,

ELDER L. BALL.

CLERK,

E. SMYTH.

Executive Board.

N. M. BERRY,
N. S. WATSON,
N. B. LEATHERWOOD,
M. H. WARD,
E. SMYTH.

MINUTES.

TEMPERANCE HILL CHURCH,
Marshall County, Mississippi, September 13, 1867.

The Delegates composing the Chickasaw Association assembled with the Temperance Hill Church on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1867.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder L. Ball, from the 1st and 2d verses of the 12th chapter of Romans.

The congregation was then dismissed for one hour.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The Association met at 2 o'clock, and was called to order by Elder L. Ball as Moderator, E. Smyth as Clerk.

Prayer by Elder W. C. Young, of the Cold Water Association.

J. H. Berry and N. S. Watson were appointed Reading Clerks.

The letters from the several Churches were then called for and read, and the delegates' names enrolled, and statistics entered.

Petitionary letters were called for, when the following Churches presented letters by their delegates praying admittance into this body, viz: Trinity Union and Hopewell. The letters were read, the Churches received, and the right hand of fellowship extended to them by the Moderator.

The Association then went into an election for Moderator and Clerk, Elders C. B. Young and E. D. Miller acting as tellers of the election—which resulted in the choice of Elder L. Ball Moderator and E. Smyth Clerk.

The Moderator then appointed the following Committees:

Preaching—D. E. Mitchell, J. A. Morgan, with the Pastor and Deacons of this Church.

State of Religion—D. I. Smyth and brothers J. B. Gambrel and H. J. Webb.

Documents—Elder H. L. Finley, brothers O. P. Short and S. H. Plant.

Sabbath Schools—J. H. Berry, W. Alexander and A. B. Giton.

Temperance—J. J. Shackelford, I. Smith and J. Taylor.

The Bible Cause—Elder J. T. Pitts and brethren J. M. Lee and M. G. Knight.

Finance—Elder H. Pritchard and brethren E. Y. Reaves and W. P. Goolsby.
 Adjourned to 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.
 Prayer by Elder E. D. Miller, of the Cold Water Association.

SATURDAY MORNING.

At 8½ o'clock met pursuant to adjournment.
 Prayer by Elder A. B. Smith, of the Cold Water Association.
 Minutes of yesterday read and approved.
 On motion, Elders H. L. Finley, I. Smith and J. T. Pitts were appointed as a committee to prepare an obituary and resolutions expressive of the sense of this body as to the death of Elder D. Potter.

The Committee on Arrangement of Business to come before this body made their Report, which was adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS.

The Committee beg leave to recommend the following:

1. Read the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Abstract of Principles;
 2. Call for correspondence from sister associations;
 3. Invite visiting brethren from sister associations, and ministering brethren of our own, to seats with us;
 4. Appoint corresponding messengers to sister associations, and to the State Convention, and brethren to write;
 5. Appoint the place for the next meeting of the Association;
 6. Elect a minister to preach the next Introductory Sermon;
 7. Call for the report of the Executive Board;
 8. Call for the Treasurer's report;
 9. Elect the Executive Board;
 10. Call for the Reports of Committees;
 11. Call for resolutions and general business.
- All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. T. PITTS, Chairman.

Read the Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Abstract of Principles.

Called for correspondence, when a minute, containing a letter of correspondence from the Cold Water Association, was received by Elders C. B. Young, A. B. Smith, E. D. Miller, and brother J. M. Smith.
 From the Tishamingo Association a letter, but no correspondence.
 From the Yallabusha Association, Elder W. W. Finley.
 From the Baptist State Convention, Elder Theo. Whitfield.

APPOINTMENT OF CORRESPONDENTS.

Cold Water Association—Elder L. Ball, and brethren J. E. Boatright and E. Smyth.
Tishamingo Association—Elders L. Ball, H. L. Finley, J. Smith, and brethren J. H. Berry, J. B. Gambrel and D. E. Mitchell.

Aberdeen Association—Elders L. Ball, J. Smith and J. T. Pitts.

Baptist State Convention—Elders H. L. Finley, W. L. Farmer, D. I. Smith, L. Ball, and brethren J. H. Berry, Jas. B. Gambrel, J. S. Berry, N. M. Berry and E. Smyth.

Judson Association—Elders J. T. Pitts, I. Smith, J. M. C. Tucker and E. Smyth.

Yallabusha Association—Elders H. L. Finley, L. Ball, W. L. Farmer, H. Pritchard, and brother R. W. Powell.

Tippah Association—Elders W. L. Farmer, L. Ball, and brethren J. H. Berry, G. W. Hall and N. S. Watson.

Appointed the next session of this body to be held with the Philadelphia Church, Lafayette county, three miles southwest of Rocky Ford.

Elected Elder J. T. Pitts to preach the next introductory sermon, and D. I. Smyth his alternate.

On application, granted leave of absence to Elder I. Smyth and brother D. E. Mitchell.

On motion, adjourned to hear a sermon by Elder J. R. Graves.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2½ o'clock, prayer by Elder W. W. Finley, of the Yallabusha Association.

Went into an election of an Executive Board, which resulted in the choice of N. S. Watson, N. M. Berry, N. B. Leatherwood, N. H. Ward and E. Smyth.

After which the regular order of business was suspended in order that public prayer might be made for the blessings of God to attend the labors of the Executive Board in the future, as it had done in the past; when Elder J. R. Graves was invited to lead in prayer, which he did in an humble and fervent manner.

The Committee on the State of Religion made their Report, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee finds that most of the churches report some precious times, while others complain of being in a cold, languishing condition. Brethren, there are reasons for this. God is the same yesterday, to-day, and forevermore. His ears are ever open to the cries of His people; and while some of the churches are receiving their periodical refreshments, we conscientiously believe, (and think our evidences are founded on God's truth,) that a vast deal more might be accomplished if we would return to the apostolic plan of each church having a pastor—a man wholly given and consecrated to the work. But to effect this, we must have a consecrated church. To show how this may be brought about would occupy too much time and space. Respectfully submitted.

D. I. SMYTH, Chairman.

Adjourned to 8½ o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by E. D. Miller.

SUNDAY MORNING.

At ten o'clock, there was a very large congregation assembled at the arbor, which was occupied first by Elder Theo. Whitfield, then by Elder J. R. Graves. During the whole service marked attention and much seriousness seemed to pervade the audience, which will be remembered by many through this life, and we hope result in good in eternity.

MONDAY MORNING.

Met at 8½ o'clock. Prayer by Elder H. L. Finley.
Minutes of Saturday read and approved.
The Committee on Documents made their Report, which was read and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

There have come into our hands no papers of any consequence, so far as regards our local interests, as an Association. We have before us the *Christian Watchman*, the *Baptist*, the *Southern Farmer*, the *Ladies' Repository and Family Magazine*, all good papers and periodicals, worthy of any and every body.
All of which is most respectfully submitted.

H. L. FINLEY.

Synopsis of the Proceedings of the Union Meeting of the First District, held on the 15th, 16th and 17th days of August, 1867.

TO CLERK OF ASSOCIATION: The Union meeting of the first district convenes with the Mt. Pleasant Church on Thursday before the first Sabbath in August, 1868; Elder J. Boswell to preach the next introductory sermon, Elder J. T. Pitts alternate.

The following brethren are to write on subjects following their names, viz:

Elder L. Ball, on the Atonement.

Elder D. I. Smyth, on the Importance of Keeping the Sabbath.

Brother J. H. Berry, on the Duty of Pastors to their Churches, and of Churches to their Pastors.

Elder J. T. Pitts, on the Fulfillment of the Prophecies.

Brother N. M. Berry, Importance of Family Prayer.

Brother J. B. Fleming, the Relation that exists between Christ and the Believer.

Brother J. B. Gambrel, Importance of Laboring in the Sabbath School.

Brother R. M. Lanell, the Necessity of an Educated Ministry.

Brother J. S. Berry, the Evil Influence of Novel Reading.

Brother N. S. Watson, Necessity of Early Piety in Youth.

The following queries are to be discussed at the next meeting:

1. Will Christ's second coming and reign be personal?

2. What course should a Church pursue toward parents and guardians who prepare their children or wards to go to dancing parties?

3. Was the Atonement complete by the death of Christ on the Cross?

4. What course should a Church pursue to fully develop the talent of all her membership?

5. What should a Church do with a member who gives his support to a retail grocery?

6. Is it the duty of each Church to support a Pastor, and thus secure his entire time?

The Committee on Temperance made their Report, which was read and agreed to, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee would report that, as far as they know or believe, comparatively few of our membership use intoxicating liquors as a beverage. But it is a matter of mortification and regret that the principles of total abstinence is not observed by all. The experience of every thinking and observing mind is that the habit of dram drinking is a lamentable evil, having been the cause of more church trials than almost any other vice. We would most earnestly recommend to all the only wise and safe course of conduct in regard to this evil, and that is to "touch not, taste not, handle not."

Respectfully submitted.

J. J. SHACKELFORD, Chairman.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools made their Report, which was agreed to, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee beg leave to report that they deem it unnecessary to go into an extended argument to show the utility and importance of Sabbath Schools. If it be the day of christians to early impress the minds of their children with the truths of the Bible, to let them drink deeply at this fountain of heavenly light, and to form their characters by this perfect model, and by this blessed standard of eternal truth, *then* Sabbath Schools afford one of the most efficient means to accomplish these great purposes. And if you, as Christian parents, neglect it, is it not at your own peril?—and to the irreparable injury of your own children? Is there nothing for you to do in your master's vineyard? Or have you no mind to work? Woe unto them that are at ease in Zion! And woe unto them that have this terrible charge to meet, "You knew your duty, but did it not." Must others labor, toil and strive for the welfare of immortal souls and you be exempt? And must you be carried to heaven on flowery beds of ease? Is this a time to devote all your energies to the affairs of this world? What is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. Therefore, whatsoever thy hands findeth to do, do it with your might, for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, in the grave whither thou goest. And, in conclusion, will not a regard for the spiritual interests of your own children—a regard for the worth of immortal souls

around you, and a desire to promote the cause of Christ, prompt each of you to use your greatest efforts to establish a Sabbath School in every Church within our bounds. And may God's richest blessings rest upon all your labors to accomplish this great end.

Respectfully submitted.

JOEL H. BERRY, Chairman.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock P.M.

Prayer by Elder C. B. Young.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Association met at 2 o'clock.

Prayer by Elder Theo. Whitfield.

The Committee on Finance made their Report, through their Chairman, Elder H. Pritchard, in which it appears they have received \$58.00 for printing minutes of the present session. The Treasurer made his Report, which was read and adopted, as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

ELIJAH SMYTH, TREASURER, in account with the "Chickasaw Association."

Dr.

DOMESTIC MISSION.

Sept. 11, 1866,	To amount on hand as per last Report.....	\$12 00
Jan. 10, 1867,	To amount received of N. M. Berry.....	10 00
" " " "	Friendship Church.....	14 00
" " " "	W. D. Goodman.....	5 00
Feb. 15, 1867,	L. Ball.....	20 00
" " " "	A. F. Golding.....	5 00
" " " "	H. L. Finley.....	5 00
" " " "	Sister Car Bobb.....	1 00
" " " "	Len Robertson.....	1 00
" " " "	A. Suber.....	2 00
Feb. 20,	J. F. Berry.....	5 00
" " " "	J. S. Cobb.....	5 00
" " " "	E. Browning.....	1 00
" " " "	J. Odum.....	1 00
" " " "	Sister C. C. Finley.....	5 00
" " " "	B. Caldwell.....	5 00
" " " "	D. I. Smyth.....	10 00
" " " "	H. T. Pitts.....	5 00
September, "	D. Potter.....	5 00
	H. L. Finley, on sale of	
	books and collections for the purchase of Bibles, etc.....	118 70
March 8, 1867,	To amount received of J. H. Berry.....	20 00
Sept. 14, 1867,	To amount received of J. H. Berry, sale of books.	4 25
		\$ 259 96
July 1, 1867,	To amount received of A. E. F. Wesson.....	\$ 5 00
Sept. 13,	F. Souther.....	5 00
" " " "	J. M. Hitt.....	5 00
" " " "	Sister E. Gravel.....	1 00
" " " "	R. L. Pitts.....	2 00
" " " "	A. J. Hall.....	5 00
" " " "	M. M. Smith.....	2 50
" " " "	J. A. Stephens.....	1 00
" " " "	M. S. Herring.....	5 00
" " " "	J. B. Herring.....	5 00

been constantly in the field during the last seven months. He was assisted by our esteemed brother, Farmer, who labored for eighty-three days. They organized three churches at important points, all of which have been received into our Association during its present session. They ordained nine Deacons, baptized forty-nine converts, and sold and donated (including those disposed of by members of the Board) over two thousand dollars worth of Bibles, Testaments and Hymn Books. Their field of labor was in destitute portions, and we humbly trust that the precious seed sown will bring forth a rich harvest to the honor and glory of God. We must not omit to state in this connection, that brother Finley organized one Baptist church, composed entirely of colored members. We humbly hope this church will exert a good influence upon these people in that vicinity.

We have the pleasure to state that the American Bible Society not only released us from one half of our old indebtedness, for Bibles ordered in the latter part of the year 1860, but made us a handsome donation of Bibles and Testaments for sale and gratuitous distribution. We also had the pleasure to receive a similar, but smaller, donation from the American and Foreign Bible Society. We humbly trust that the blessings of Heaven may rest upon each member of the respective Boards for their kindness and liberality in this time of our great need.

As this is the last report that the Executive Board will make to this body, through its present chairman, after imperfect service for twenty-one years, he can only ask forgiveness for past errors, and commend you to God, and the word of his grace. May our blessed Savior take his own cause in his holy keeping, and abundantly prosper the new board in all their future labors within our bounds. And finally, when we have finished our work on earth, may we all meet in that bright world above, where parting will be no more.

Respectfully submitted.

JOEL H. BERRY.

On application, granted a letter of dismission from this body to the Clear Creek Church.

The Committee to prepare an obituary and resolutions on the death of Elder D. Potter, made their Report, which was adopted and ordered to be spread on the Minutes, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARY OF ELDER POTTER.

We, your Committee on the Obituary and Resolutions as to the death of Elder D. Potter, report the following:

Brother Potter attached himself to the Baptist Church in the year 1848, was licensed to preach the gospel in the year 1849, and ordained to the full functions of the ministry about the year 1858. He lived the life of a consistent Christian, and manifested a zeal and energy in the divine life rarely equaled, and surpassed by few. He possessed great decision of character, maturing his plans well, and prompt in executing them—almost to a fault. As a citizen, he was firm and unshaken in what he believed to be the best interests of

his country; and as a neighbor, kind and obliging. His companion has lost a husband indeed, his children a kind and affectionate father. In him the Church has lost an able defender; he was sound in doctrine, and preached the truths of the gospel faithfully and impartially.

Resolved, That with deep regret we have learned that our much esteemed and beloved brother, Daniel Potter, formerly a member of this body, has been called to his reward on high.

Resolved, Therefore, that we extend to the bereaved family and friends our most hearty condolence, and pray God to sanctify this with all other dispensations of his providence to our good.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

H. L. FINLEY, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

We cannot too highly prize the Bible. It is God's *own and only* revelation to man. It contains a full revelation of His will, and is a perfect rule of faith and practice, and makes known to us the only plan of salvation to a guilty and lost race. We feel it our duty, as Baptists, to circulate the blessed Word, at home and abroad, in the *purest versions* that can be obtained. It is a matter of the *profoundest* regret, and a source of the *deepest mortification* to us, to be compelled to declare that the American Bible Union has manifestly violated its own rule of translation in the rendering of the Greek terms, "*doulos*," generally, and "*andrepodistes*," in 1 Tim. i: 10. The institution of slavery, it is true, has disappeared from amongst us, never to return. Yet the new version in translating a term that evidently means "slave stealers," and is so rendered in our common version, "slave dealers," we, who once were slave holders—as were most of the Saints of the Jewish dispensation, and most of the Christians of the Apostolic Churches—are classed by this version with murderers and involved in the guilt, and obnoxious to the penalty due to those who in the Apostle's days stole *slaves*—not freemen, in order to enslave the "kidnappers."

We can never place a version so untrue to the original, and so unjust to ourselves, in the hands of our children, and the generation to come—to teach them to regard their fathers as a race justly obnoxious to the divine displeasure. The blow that fanaticism has inflicted upon us we can never consent to be sustained and justified by an equally false and fanatical version of God's Word. Let the Bible Union wait ere it curses the slave dealer—until God curses him.

We are as ever the advocates of a pure version, and trust that the voice of the denomination will yet constrain the Bible Union to conform their version in all respects to the teachings of the divine originals.

Respectfully submitted.

J. T. PITTS, Chairman.

RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, Convinced of the great importance of Sabbath Schools

for the religious instruction of our children, and the children of our congregations,

Resolved, That we, the Messengers of this Association, do pledge each other that we will, by the blessing of God, labor until we have organized a Baptist Sabbath School in each of our Churches.

Resolved, That the respective Churches composing the Chickasaw Association report in their letters next year all the particulars with regard to the Sabbath Schools in their respective Churches.

Resolved, Unanimously, that the warmest thanks of this Association be tendered to the board of managers of the American Bible Society for their handsome donation of Bibles and Testaments, April 4, 1867, and also for canceling a balance of \$54.35, due by us for Bibles bought in November, 1860.

Resolved, That it is the desire and prayer of this Association that Heaven's richest blessings may rest upon said board of managers for their kindness and liberality.

Resolved, Unanimously, that the thanks of this body are hereby tendered to the board of managers of the American and Foreign Bible Society for a handsome donation of Bibles to our Executive Board.

Resolved, That it is the prayer of this Association that Heaven's richest blessings may rest upon said board of managers for their kindness and liberality.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the Moderator and Clerk for the able and satisfactory manner in which they have discharged their respective duties.

Resolved, That the Clerk be requested to have as many copies of the minutes of this session of our body printed as the money will procure and to reserve ten dollars for his services.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and hereby tendered to the Church at this place, and the citizens generally in the vicinity, for their kind reception and hospitable entertainment during our present session.

§

ADJOURNMENT.

After some appropriate remarks by the Moderator, a parting hymn was sung, and in the midst of deep religious feeling the Association adjourned, to meet with the Philadelphia Church on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1868.

E. SMYTH, Clerk.

L. BALL, Moderator.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

L. BALL.....	Cherry Creek Post-Office.	
J. T. PITTS.....	"	"
D. I. SMYTH.....	"	"
J. SMITH.....	Pontotoc	"
ST. CLAIR LAWRENCE,	"	"
H. L. FINDLEY.....	"	"
J. CROSSLEY.....	Tocapola	"
T. GALLY.....	"	"
J. C. HALL.....		
E. BROWNING.....	Cherry Creek	"
F. M. FERREL.....	Lafayette Springs	"
H. PRITCHARD.....	Rocky Ford	"
M. H. MOODY.....	Waterford	"
W. L. FARMER.....	Holly Springs	"
W. L. REYNOLDS.....	Cornersville	"
I. SMITH.....	Wallersville	"
J. BOSWELL.....	Tardyville	"

Licentiates.

JAS. B. GAMBREL....Molino Post-Office.

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POSTOFFICE.	Days of Meeting.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.										No. Baptised.	Received by letter.	Dismissed by letter.	Restored.	Excluded.	Dead.	Colored Members.	TOTAL.	For Minutes.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
Amaziah.....	W. L. Farmer	Cornersville.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. Verner.....	1	W. L. Reynolds, S. Reynolds, N. 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